# **Trephina Gorge Nature Park**





Trephina Gorge, in the East
MacDonnell Ranges, is noted for
its sheer quartzite cliffs and River
Red Gum lined watercourses. Two
gorges dissect the range: Trephina,
with its wide views and sandy
creekbed, and John Hayes Rock
Hole with steep, narrow rock walls.
Water holes in this area attract
much wildlife, including a diverse
range of birds.

#### Access

Situated 85km east of Alice Springs, the Park is accessible to all vehicles. Access is via the sealed Ross Highway, then a 9km drive into Trephina Gorge, the last 5km on a gravel road.

The John Hayes Rockhole track within the Park is recommended for 4WD vehicles only. Heavy rains may cause all roads to become impassable.

### When to visit

The cooler months (April to September) are the most pleasant time to visit Trephina Gorge.

## What to do

Camping - Camping grounds with pit toilets, picnic tables, gas barbecues and drinking water are provided at Trephina Bluff and Trephina Gorge. Camping is only permitted in designated camping areas.

No water is provided at the John Hayes camp ground.

Camping fees are payable on site (cash only).

Walking - From Trephina Gorge there are a number of short walking tracks (shown on map overleaf).

For experienced walkers there is the longer
Trephina Ridgetop Trail through to John Hayes Rockhole,
offering panoramic views of the surrounding ranges and wildlife of the area. Allow an extra 2 hours if you plan to walk back to Trephina Gorge via the main road.

Walkers planning extended walks are strongly advised to notify a friend or reliable person of your intended route and plans.

During the peak visitor period (May to September) Rangers conduct guided walks and campfire talks.



**Swimming** - Swimmers should be aware that most

swimming holes are extremely cold. Prolonged exposure, even during summer, can result in hypothermia. Beware of submerged logs and rocks.

John Hayes Rockhole
is a popular swimming
location during warmer
months. However during
prolonged dry periods the
waterholes at Trephina
Gorge and John Hayes
Rockhole can evaporate,
leaving only a sandy creekbed.

Stop at the magnificent Ghost Gum, believed to be the largest in the East Macs.

# **Safety and Comfort**

- · Observe park safety signs.
- Carry and drink plenty of water.
- Wear a shady hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, suitable clothing and footwear.
- Avoid strenuous activity during the heat of the day.
- Consider your health and fitness when choosing a walk.
- · Swim only where recommended.

### Please Remember

- Keep to designated roads and tracks.
- All historic, cultural items and wildlife are protected.
- Firewood collection is not permitted in the park.
- Fires are only permitted in designated firepits.
- Bins are not provided, please take your rubbish with you.
- Pets are not permitted in this park.
- Generators are not permitted.





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